**U.S. Bankruptcy Court Northern District of Oklahoma** Help Desk: 918-699-4072

**CM/ECF Newsletter** November 2004

# CM/ECF News



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Reminders

Wow! I can't believe it's been 3 months since the last newsletter. Time sure does fly when you are having fun! This may be the first newsletter for many of you. The CM/ECF Newsletter is a great way for us to communicate with our users and relay any important information. Please check out some of the past

issues on our CM/ECF website communications page.

The court went to mandatory e-filing on September 1, 2004. The help desk personnel were kept very busy a few weeks before and after that day in training and assisting users. Luckily, it now seems that most of you have gotten the hang of the system and are doing just fine.

This month, we will begin having "Lunch and Learn" with attorneys and their staff. This will be a great time to ask any questions you may have, have a feature demonstrated for further clarification, and pass along any tips or tricks you have learned about the system. Users are encouraged to bring their questions and tips along with their lunch for an interactive discussion about the system.

The first Lunch and Learn will be held on November 17th at 12:00 pm at the Clerk's Office. Please contact the CM/ECF Help Desk at cmecf@oknb.uscourts.gov with the following information to reserve your seat!

- Name(s) of participants & Job title
- Phone Number
- Proposed questions/topics to discuss

Space is limited, so contact us today!

I look forward to seeing you there.

Thanks. Andrea Redmon

## PACER Fees increasing January 1, 2005.

A fee increase from 7 cents per page to 8 cents per page for public access to court electronic records (PACER) was approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States at its September 2004 session. The fee increase applies to all systems (CM/ECF, PACER, RACER, etc.) and will become effective January 1, 2005. The 30 page cap on case-related documents and reports (excluding transcripts) will remain in effect. However, the maximum cost will be \$2.40.

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## **Chapter 12 Legislation**

On October 25, 2004, the President signed into law S. 2864 (P. L. 108-369, 118 Stat. 1749), extending chapter 12 of the Bankruptcy Code for eighteen months, retroactive to January 1, 2004, and ending July 1, 2005. Chapter 12 of the Bankruptcy Code expired on January 1, 2004, pursuant to Pub. L. No. 108-73, and has not been available to family farmers for over nine months. Family farmers who, on or after January 1, 2004, filed for relief under another chapter of the Bankruptcy Code may convert their cases to chapter 12.

Chapter 12 was originally enacted as an emergency measure in the mid 1980's, and thus had a sunset provision. It has been temporarily extended many times by Congress. If enacted, pending bankruptcy reform legislation would make chapter 12 a permanent feature of the Bankruptcy Code.



## **Mailing Info for a Case**

To find out who will receive electronic notification of your e-filing, BEFORE you file your document, you may go to the Utilities menu, click on Mailings, and then click on Mailing Info for a case. This will display all ATTORNEYS that will receive e-mail notification. It will not, however display other parties, such as trustees and creditors. All trustees are receiving e-mail notification.

The CM/ECF system is great. It saves much time and is easy to use. I wish we would have had this long ago. No more trips to the courthouse just for filings.—Mark Bransford

### New rules to go into effect December 2004

There are several new rules that, pending Congressional approval, will go into effect on December 1, 2004. Below is a synopsis of the rules, for more information, please go to http://www.uscourts.gov/rules/newrules6.html.

1011 (Responsive Pleading or Motion in Involuntary and Ancillary Cases) (technical amendment that deletes cross-reference to Bankruptcy Rule 1004(b));

Rule 2002 (Notices to Creditors, Equity Security Holders, United States, and United States Trustee) (technical amendment that sets forth correct mailing address);

Rule 9014 (Contested Matters) (exempts contested matters from the mandatory disclosure provisions of Civil Rule 26); and New Official Form 21 (Statement of Social Security Number) (implements proposed amendments to Bankruptcy Rule 1007, by requiring the debtor to submit a verified statement setting forth the full social security number with the clerk) (Will not be sent to Supreme Court.).

Although we don't specialize in bankruptcy, and we only file approximately 3 per month, I feel that the electronic filing system is the easiest, most time-efficient program available. It saves the attorney time and steps to the Courthouse, and it saves money for copies and supplies in our office. —Carolyn & John Klenda

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Electronic filing is easier than shopping on the internet. If you've ordered from Amazon, you can file electronically -- and you don't have to pay extra for shipping! - Leonard Pataki

#### A few reminders.....

The court's address will appear in the creditor mailing list, however, please do not "serve" the court a copy of the pleading that you are filing electronically

Notate all signature lines with an "s/name" on documents being filed. Failure to do so may result in a deficient pleading notice.

When filing a Multi-part Motion (ie. Motion for Relief from Stay and Motion to Abandon), please select both Motions from the pick list by clicking one and then holding down the control key and selecting the next. Typing the additional text will result in a deficient pleading notice.

When opening an Adversary Proceeding, the Demand dollar that is entered should be in thousands. For example, if you have a demand of \$45,000, you would enter "45".

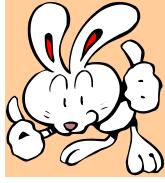
Whenever you are filing an amendment to a pleading, an answer or response, a certificate of service, and a Request for Entry of Order, these should be referred back to the document that it relates to. For example, a Request for Entry of Order should be related to the Motion, and the Certificate of Service should be related to the document that was served.

After filing all new cases for the day, please go in and run the Judge/Trustee Assignment for those cases. This is the best way to ensure that your cases are held at the same time.



When docketing an Objection to Claim please use the docket event, Objection to Claim, located under Claim Action.





Paraphrasing the famous Uncle Remus character, Briar Rabbit: Please don't throw me into the Electronic filing that I can do from my desk with the push of a button; don't take away my requirement to drive to the Court, find parking and spend my time going through the security; don't let me file at any time day or night; don't make me file amended schedules from my desk; don't give me almost instantaneous feed back on Section 341 hearing, on a no assets case or documents that I have filed from my desk; and lastly don't give me that three hours of free CLE for learning the system. - Dale Ray Gardner

## Weekly CM/ECF Outage

The CM/ECF system will be down every week on Sunday between the hours of 2:30 am to 3:00 am for weekly maintenance.

ECF differs from a deputy clerk as a car differs from a horse - faster but not as much hair.

Now you can total somebody's car running a red light on the way home from work, get your head patched by the emergency room physician and his staff, and file bankruptcy on all of them before midnight.

#### Brian Huckabee

Contact Us!

CM/ECF Help Desk: 918-699-4072

cmecf@oknb.uscourts.gov



## New Hours for the Clerk's Office

Monday8:30—4:30Tuesday8:30—3:00Wednesday8:30—4:30Thursday8:30—4:30Friday8:30—4:30

I appreciate the responsiveness to questions that I have asked the CM/ECF help desk."
Ron Bernbaum

#### **Electronic Filings**

